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ABSTRACT

The parents' role as teacher is important to a child's learning process. Parents tutoring their children are advised to remain positive and patient, be aware of the child's feelings, keep the tutoring time short, select a quiet place away from distractions, use games and manipulative objects rather than more abstract experiences, etc. Informal home and neighborhood learning experiences are suggested, such as growing plants, grocery shopping, and feeding family pets. Survival learning should include such activities as reading traffic signs, using a pay telephone, paying for items in a store, map reading, and planning budgets. Helpful hints for tutoring the child in reading focus on: allowing the child to select his or her own library books, reading comic books or "Sesame Street" magazine, setting a parental example by reading newspapers and books, writing short notes to the child, playing reading skill games, etc. When tutoring in spelling, parents should keep the spelling list short, make a flash card for each spelling word, review all past words frequently, and "write" difficult words with materials such as clay or macaroni. In mathematics, helpful activities include showing the everyday uses of numbers, adding and subtracting things in the home, and discovering number facts using toothpicks. (JDD)

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TUTORING YOUR CHILD

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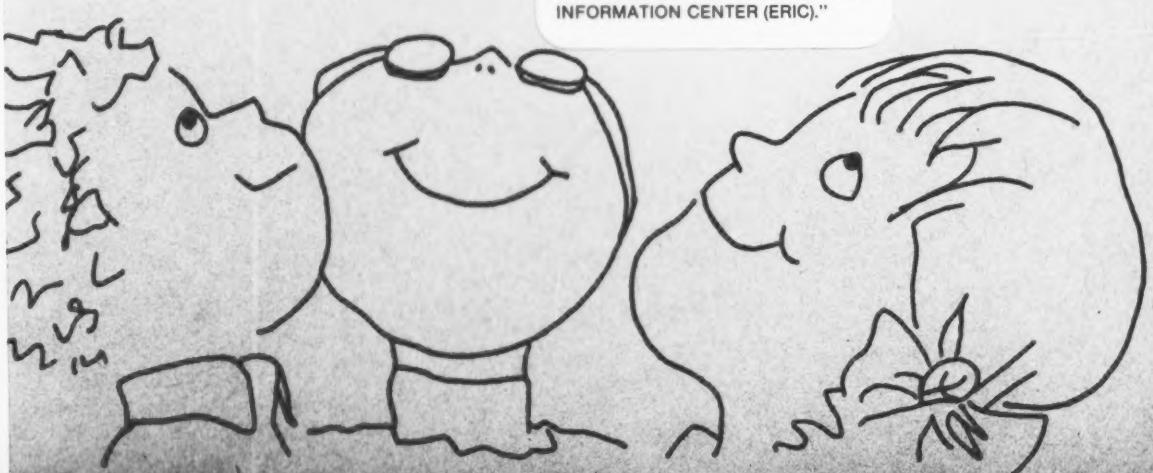

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Tutoring Your Child

Developed by the
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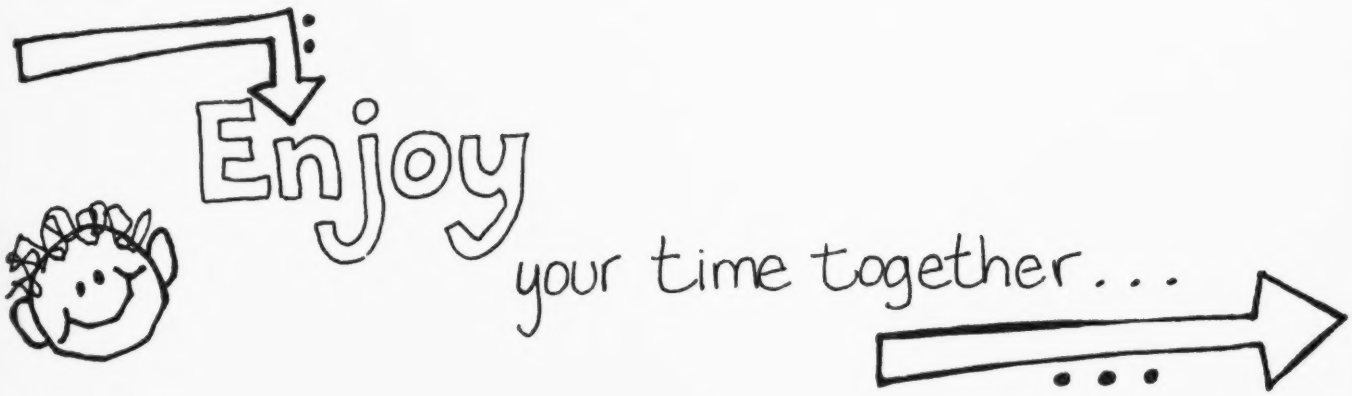
introduction

Education is not confined to the public school, nor is it the divine right of the classroom teacher. As teachers are parents, parents are teachers. Your role of teacher is equally important because the learning process is continuous and does not stop after the last school bell.

It is essential for parents and teachers to respect this process of learning. Consideration must be given to your child and to yourself as to what kind of results will come from a tutoring experience between you. Sometimes it is best not to tutor if

you become nervous and upset when helping your child with schoolwork. (We all have different levels of patience!) If you feel you would like to tutor your child, this can be a most rewarding experience for you both if a few simple guidelines are followed.

This booklet is dedicated to a warm, positive, loving relationship between you and your child.



Tips:

- Remain **Positive** and **Patient** at **all** times. If you are nervous, upset, or rushed, find another time.

- Be **Aware** of your child's **Feelings**. Is your child tired, busy with important play activities, watching a favorite TV program, or in need of a break from school routine? If so, **wait** until a better time.

Tips

continued...

- Keep your tutoring time **Short**... A **20** minute time limit is suggested. Let your child know what the time limit is. If you have a child that wants to go on and **You** do not want to continue, remind your child of the time limit and tell your child that the time is up!

- Select a **quiet** place away from other family members and distractions. Have your tutoring materials in place **before** you begin.

4.

Tips

continued...

→ Children learn skills more **quickly** and **Easily** through the use of **Games** and **Manipulative** objects rather than more abstract experiences such as listening to adults "explain" or watching adults do the task!

→ Tutoring does **NoT** have to be a formal learning process with books, pencils, and paper. **MucH** learning goes on when children have the chance to **HELP** their parents in everyday tasks.

Informal Home and Neighborhood Learning Experiences

Incidental learning experiences are as important as formal learning experiences. **Try** some of these suggestions. (You probably are doing many of these things already! An A+ to you if you are!)

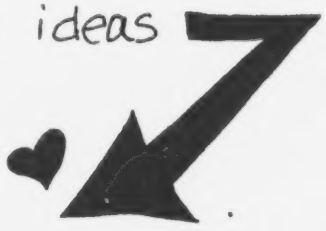
- games
- grocery shopping
- putting grocery products away
- reading labels
- reading traffic signs
- numbers on phone, houses, calendar, birthday cake, license plates, etc.
- movies
- talk about functions of stores in plaza
- trip
- library
- planning surprises or parties for family members
- feed family pet
- household tasks
- model building
- toys
- nature walks or hiking
- conversation

- helping parent with parent's tasks
- map reading in car
- wash car windows when parent goes to gas station
- crafts
- watch milk truck deliver at outdoor dairy drive-in
- visit fire station in neighborhood
- grow a plant from a seed
- help prepare meals, cook, or bake
- count forks, spoons, napkins, dishes

Survival Learning

consists of experiences that will help your child **get along in the world.**

Here are some ideas

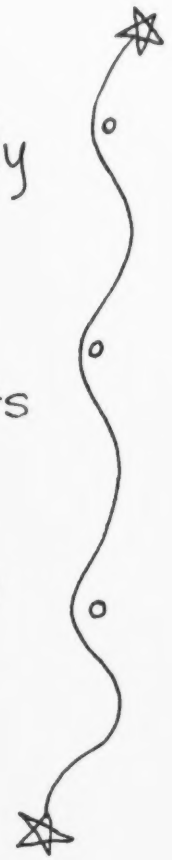


* reading traffic signs.
* knowing how to cross the street
* using a pay phone
* dialing a phone or the operator
* emergency phone numbers and who to call
* knowing home address, town, state, and own phone number
* paying for items in a store
* paying the check in a restaurant

* leaving the tip
* money value; 5 pennies make a nickel, etc.
* going to a laundromat
* reading a phone book, catalogue, manual
* riding a city bus or cab or subway
* ordering a meal in a restaurant
* making own appointments for haircut, dentist
* reading a menu
* keeping property in good condition such as toys, bike, game, sports equipment
* reading job ads, for sale ads in newspaper
* filling out job applications, social security applications, etc.
* reading driver's manual (car)
* map reading for travel
* check-in procedure at motel or hotel with parents

* how to fix car, bike
* be with parents when large items are purchased for home or yard
* grocery shopping
* cooking
* planning budget of allowance
* bank account
* going to doctor or dentist alone
* visit community sources of information such as library, museum
* household tasks
* buy tickets at movie, sports event, concert
* understand the sections of the newspaper
* look for and wait for sales to purchase clothing, some foods, forms of recreation
* shopping for best price
* selecting own clothing in store or in home for daily wear

* learning how to bathe, wash hair, brush teeth and care for own body
* care for pet
* tie, zipper, buckle, button, snap!
* get dressed in all types of garments
* best clothing for weather
* watch parents pay bills; where, when
* cut own meat
* hang clothing on rack or hanger
* clean up own mess
* use first aid for minor injuries



Tutoring your child in reading ...helpful hints

#Children should be able to select books from library regardless of being able to read them or not. How **important** they feel with a **Big** book or a **Thick** book . . . How marvelous for their self-image! They learn much from pictures or words here and there!

When reading words not on the page, your child may be practicing fluency or hoping you don't notice the words that can't be read.

Quickly supply the word that is being stumbled over so your child will be able to remember and understand what has been read.

Comic strips or comic books or cartoons are fun to read because they are short, colorful, clever, and have fewer words at a time. They are funny, too!

Electric Co. or Sesame St. now have magazines that are excellent for beginning readers.

Childen imitate what they see.
Encourage your child to read a book with you when you read your favorite book, magazine, or newspaper.

#Encourage your child to use the TV Guide. It's amazing how a child learns to recognize the names of favorite TV shows!

#Write short notes of love or instructions to your child... how meaningful the words become!

#Ask your child's teacher for the names of reading skill games that can be purchased or borrowed. Use them!

#Make a list of letters or words your child misses when reading to you. Put these words on an index card. (One word per card) Go over these words each day by using the cards as flash cards or putting them on the table, saying the word, and having your child pick up the word card that you said.

#Read words to favorite songs child knows.
#Make use of informal home and neighborhood learning experiences.
#Save greeting cards.

Keep it **Short**
Keep it **Pleasant**
Keep it **Positive**
Keep it **Relaxed**
Keep it **Calm**

SPELLING:

- When your child asks for help with a spelling word, the word should be written down in printing. The child should see the word.

- If your child is a poor speller, your child's spelling list should be kept **Short.** Begin with a list of (3) to (5) words. With success add another word. A list of 8-10 spelling words might be your goal.

- Put each word on an index card of its own. Say the letters in each word while looking at the card. Turn the card over. Have your child write the word. Repeat this until your child can write the word correctly.

- Frequent review of all past words is necessary to help your child remember them.

- Put the words that your child remembers on a word ring. (A shower hook will hold index cards with a hole punched in the corners.)

- Try magnetic letters, clay, sandpaper, macaroni, nails in wood, wood burning (for older child) for materials to "write" difficult words. When children feel letters, sometimes this helps them remember easier.

- Cut out large print words from the newspaper and magazines.

- Tape record the spelling of words.

MATH:

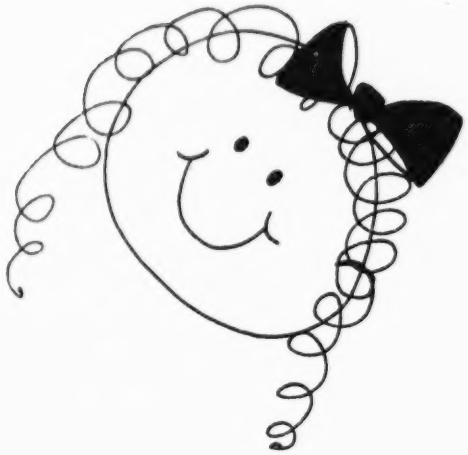
✓Help child realize we depend on numbers in our everyday life; clocks, temperature, birthdays, calendar, stove, house number, license plate, phone, cooking, driving, gas pump, prices in store, menus, music, etc.

✓Adding and subtracting experiences in the home; count forks on the table, crackers in box, candies or peanuts in dish, paper napkins, toothbrushes, socks, shoes, books, etc.

✓Read price numbers on products and jar lids. ♥

✓"Discover" number facts using toothpicks:

$7 = 1+6$
$2+5$
$3+4$
$4+3$
$5+2$
$6+1$



✓Use of number families

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 5 & 2 & 7 & 7 \\ +2 & +5 & -5 & -2 \\ \hline 7 & 7 & 2 & 5 \end{array}$$

✓Use of color cues to help your child remember where to begin (↙) and what to do (+) (−).

$$\begin{array}{r|l} 5 & 2\swarrow \\ +1 & 9 \\ \hline \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r|l} 6 & 3\swarrow \\ - & 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Also, draw lines to separate the ones column from the tens, etc.

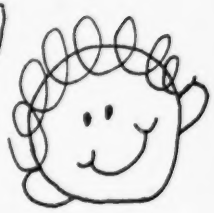
This helps your child stay in the right column.

✓Use of popsicle sticks or toothpicks or pencils to show bundles of ten and extra ones make teen numbers, for place value.

✓Make up examples using catalogues, menus, sports scores, weight of family members, age differences, miles to places of interest, etc.

✓Make use of body as a computer... if child can't remember number facts, encourage your child to use fingers, toes, buttons, or whatever to get the answer!

ENCOURAGING WORDS FOR YOUR CHILD



during a tutoring experience:

SUPER!

WONDERFUL!

MARVELOUS!

VERY GOOD!

TERRIFIC!

FANTASTIC!

HOW CLEVER!

GREAT!